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PRINTER

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AND STATIONER

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

(REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE AS A NEWSPAPER FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.)

FORTY-THIRD YEAR.

VOLUME LXXXIX.
NUMBER 5.

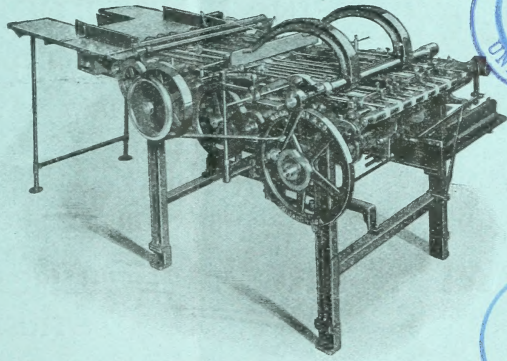
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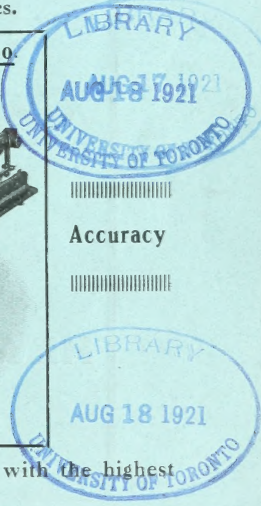
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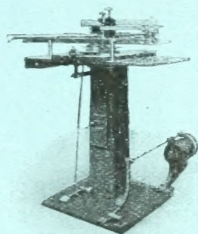
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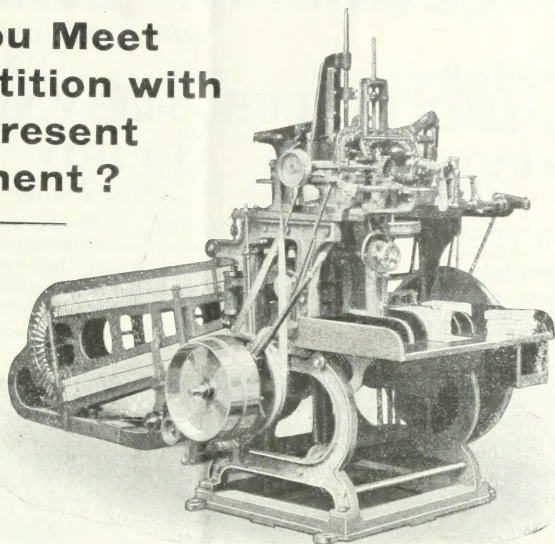
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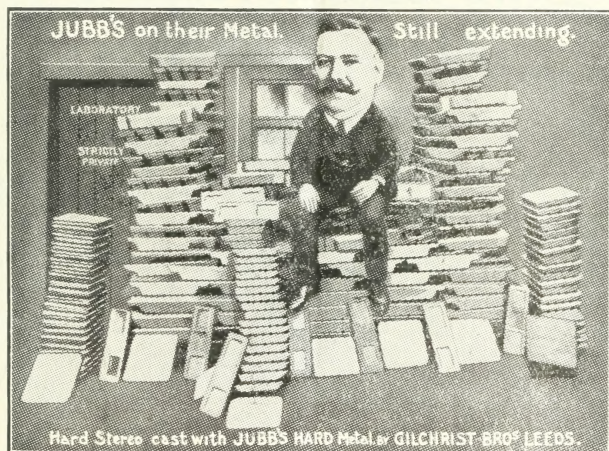
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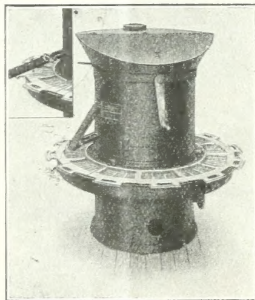
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109
FORTY-THIRD YEAR.

**VOLUME LXXXIX.
NUMBER 5.**

LONDON: AUGUST 4, 1921.

**EVERY THURSDAY.
PRICE TWOPENCE.**

Costing in the Bindery.

Mr. Howard Vick Surveys the Present Position.

Mr. Howard Vick, head of the firm of Messrs. Vick, Ashworth and Co., of Manchester, is an enthusiastic advocate of scientific costing in every department of a printing business. As a member of the Manchester Costing Committee of the Federation of Master Printers, Mr. Vick was asked to address the recent cost congress at Scarborough on the subject of "Binding Costing," and his remarks in that connection will doubtless be read with interest by many who were unable to be present at the congress.

Commencing with some apologetic remarks disclaiming special qualification to handle the subject allotted to him, Mr. Vick remarked regretfully upon the absence of the time docket in Manchester binderies, and said that it passed his comprehension how it could be reasonably expected that a man could come from Manchester where workmen absolutely decline to furnish time on work, and deliver a convincing address on "Binding Costing," Mr. Vick then continued somewhat as follows:—

Necessity for Bindery Costing.

In no part of the business, is accurate costing more necessary than in the bindery. In the days before scientific costing was installed in my factory we used to look upon the binding department as a sort of necessary but wasteful adjunct to the printing department, but now in spite of the fact that we are working the Costing System under difficulty, owing to the absence of time dockets—though we do get time dockets from the women—we find our binding department the most consistently remunerative end of our business. I assure you that the costs we ascertain are stagger-

ing, particularly in the case of high-class account books.

This brings me to a word on estimating. Experience teaches that, generally speaking, estimating is done in a very slovenly manner. This is often because estimating clerks are only such in name and have no real technical knowledge of their job. How many master printers are really masters of their job? This is I believe the kernel of the whole question of price-cutting. Only the man who really knows *how* a job should be done—the number of operations necessary to complete it, the numerous handlings it gets from the moment it enters the order department until the cashier has received the cheque for its payment—realises the cost and need for profitable return; but there are far too many men in the trade who look at a job and give their opinion as to "what it is worth," without compiling necessary details of information. I have here a time docket which allows for 42 operations in the binding department. How many printers examine and allow for all necessary operations in binding jobs? it should set us all thinking. You cannot arrive at the cost price of even a four quire foolscap folio book, ruled and printed, paged and indexed, bound half red basil, by looking at it and saying it is worth "so much." It is worth just so much as it cost to produce and you want a profit, so you need to make a series of calculations such as Paper, Ruling, Printing, Sewing, Ends, Binding, Paging, Finishing, Despatch. If you don't do it you don't get a fair price for your book and probably are unwittingly damaging the reputation of a fellow craftsman; besides, few of us get such magnanimous con-

sideration from the tradesman who supply us with the necessities of life.

Costing Improves Status.

I should like to lay special stress on the importance of the Costing System in the bearing it has on the relationship of one printer to another. As soon as one has the system working, one is almost sure to find that prices hitherto charged were far too low, and then the conundrum presents itself: "How can I get orders in competition?" I will frankly admit that my firm would have adopted the Costing System many years before it did, but for the difficulty in answering that question. We felt that we were not getting sufficiently remunerative prices, but that if we raised them we should surely be cut out by competitors. Well, there are two ways of looking at the proposition. First: if you cannot sell your product at a price which shows a reasonable profit on its cost of manufacture, you are better selling catsmeat, because you can't go on like that forever—and surely you are entitled to something more for your labour and enterprise than a bare existence. Secondly: with the Costing System installed and properly working, you will be better off with one-half, one-third, or even less business than you were doing without it and will have far less worry and anxiety; but when you are satisfied that the Costing System has shown you the weakness in your organisation you will use every effort to bring others into line, thus lessening reckless competition and improving the status of the trade.

The application of the Costing System to control the cost production and profit of Bookbinding has not made the same advance as in the printing end of the trade. The true cost of bookbinding is an unknown quantity where guessing at costs takes the place of hard facts and systematic cost-recording. The customer obtains advantage, and the binder's fellow craftsmen suffer unnecessary injustice which leads to price-cutting. There is no end to this price-cutting once begun, and an impoverished trade is the final result. Bookbinding differs so much from printing that a correct appreciation of cost is more difficult to obtain except by systematic measures.

Hourly Costs Must be Known.

It must be clear that no business can be soundly carried on unless some attempt is made to control the cost of production—flat rates are futile unless arrived at as a result of sound accounting. Scientific accounting is a guide to intelligent economy which is as essential to success for any concern as skill to an artisan. One of the facts to be seriously faced is that the Costing Department is not a dead expense and a liability, but on the other hand, is, or will be, if rightly handled, one of the most important and valuable assets in the organisation of the business. It should, therefore, be the aim of every binder to ascertain by accurate accounting or costing, the hourly cost of every machine, process and operation in the department. The basis of this cost is the number of chargeable hours worked, which

can only be accurately ascertained by the time docket. The various forms provided under the Federation Costing System enable the management to collect and analyse the hours spent on the various machines and processes, and calculate each week the exact value of work turned out for comparison with its cost. Time-wasting methods are detected and improvements effected which may lead to greater output with corresponding better status for the operative, because a sound business guided by progressive methods assures that profit without which labour cannot obtain the reward it often unreasonably expects. Ignorance of cost, consequently followed by cut prices, spells insecurity and inability to give that fair consideration to the worker which would ensure the status to which he appears so anxious to attain. In the interests of uniformity, efficiency and accuracy the Federation Costing System is, as a matter of fact, and should be regarded by all master binders as, indispensable.

Here I would ask leave to introduce a quotation from an article on costing which appeared recently in an American journal. "Losses caused by ignorance are enormously greater than losses caused by dishonesty. The concerns whose accounts are kept by incompetent accountants are the ones from whom ruinous competition is to be feared. The manufacturer who through lack of ability to keep correct accounts is not properly informed as to the true cost of his product or the true cost of service rendered, is the one who under the stress of competition impoverishes himself by accepting selling prices that are insufficiently to cover the true cost of that which he gives in exchange. Incompetent accounting is the cause of more failures than all other causes combined. It gives incorrect information as to the cost of products and services which leads to the acceptance of insufficient compensation, a course that must result in failure with a certainty from which there is no escape." I commend the application of these remarks to master bookbinders generally, for there must be few in the trade who are completely satisfied with the profit they extract from it.

The Costing System is Succeeding.

In America—as in this country—the standard cost-finding system has met with great success in spite of very bitter opposition from many members, and the tragedy of it was that the very members who opposed or were indifferent to it were the ones who needed it the most. Isn't this exactly what costing enthusiasts are finding here? In spite of almost insuperable difficulties the results accomplished in America have been wonderful. May we not hope for equally satisfactory results from the earnest campaign of our own Costing Committee?

I leave my subject with just one other thought. While I presume it will be generally conceded that all business men are in business for what profit there is in it—yet in these latter days it will hardly be denied that the thought of "Service" has taken deep root

in the hearts of the best business men of this country and I believe we are all desirous of rendering the greatest possible service, not only to our immediate customers but to the age in which we live. It is only through a true knowledge of the cost of that service that we shall be able to reach the highest peak of efficiency, which should be the goal to which all of us are striving.

Newspaper Losses.

Globe Newspaper Co., Ltd.

The difficulties of conducting a newspaper in these days of high costs of production and trade depression were emphasised at meetings of creditors and shareholders, held last week in London, under the compulsory winding-up order made on April 26th against the Globe Newspaper Co., Ltd.

A statement of affairs showed unsecured liabilities £34,576, and assets valued at £8,377, but it was intimated that after allowing for preferential and other claims, there could be no dividend for the unsecured creditors.

Mr. E. T. A. Phillips, official receiver, reviewing the history of the paper, stated that in February, 1920, an agreement was made between Mr. Robert Donald and Mr. Lawrence Lyon, then an M.P., for the sale of the paper to the latter for £24,000.

Mr. Lyon was unable to provide the second instalment of the purchase price, and on June 24th, 1920, the present company was promoted by a London bank.

Mr. Robert Donald held £7,000 debentures on his own account, and £15,000 for the liquidator of the former company of Business Newspapers, Ltd.

Publication of the paper by the company resulted in a heavy loss from the commencement. In 7½ months the loss was £32,718.

The failure was attributed to lack of capital, the heavy cost of labour and material, and inability to obtain advertisements, owing to depression in trade.

The official receiver added that £31,361 of the unsecured liabilities was due to Mr. Clarence Hatrey, who had been managing director for the bank, on his loan account.

The copyright of the newspaper was sold last February for £750.

The liquidation was left in the hands of the official receiver.

DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE.—For some weeks rumour has been very busy with the future of the Department of Overseas Trade. The life of the Department has been short, but in its chequered career it has again and again been the subject of investigation, and now, it is said, its activities are to be severely curtailed in the interests of economy, says *The Times* (Trade Supplement).

AN Advertisement is always working.

Printers' Pensions Annual Festival

Sir William Waterlow to Preside.

The last annual dinner of the Printers' Pension, Almshouse and Orphan Asylum Corporation, held on November 11th, 1920, was an overwhelming and unprecedented success—as was only to be expected in view of the fact that the president on that occasion was none other than H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The president at this year's festival is to be Sir William Waterlow, K.B.E., to whom therefore, falls the very difficult task of attempting to follow worthily the magnificent lead given by the Prince. The state of trade is not favourable to the easy compilation of heavy subscription lists, so that it is all the more necessary that the hearty co-operation of the whole of the trade should be behind the new president in the heavy task to which he has put his hand.

In order to meet a few of the supporters of the institution, and to enlist their sympathy Sir William recently gave a luncheon at Stationers' Hall, and put forward on the occasion a few proposals in connection with his presidency. Stress was laid on the fact that at the present time the sum being paid away in pensions to the aged is no less than £17,000. In addition, there are some 1,250 War orphans on the books, and the maintenance of these entails on outlay of upwards of £10,000. It is hoped to give a helping hand to each and all of these children until they are of an age at which they can go out into the world, and the estimate formed of the total expenditure which will be necessary in this direction amounts to no less a sum than £75,000. In conclusion, Sir William appealed to all, masters and men alike, associated with the profession to give him all the support they possibly could in the task he had set before himself.

Mr. T. E. Naylor, of the London Society of Compositors, and Mr. Howes, of the Society of Machine Minders, promised to become Stewards, and to enlist the interest of those whom they represented in the good work; and Mr. R. A. Austen-Leigh, Sir Frederick Bowater, Mr. C. J. Drummond, J.P., and others similarly assured Sir William of their readiness to co-operate in every way possible.

Difficult though times may be, there is no reason why the next festival, which is to be held on November 2nd, should not be a great success, and this it will be if all those engaged in the printing and allied trades will seize the opportunity to assist, in large or small degree, in the praiseworthy endeavour to which the enthusiastic efforts of the new president are being devoted.

WHEN buying some note paper at my stationer's yesterday I remarked that it lacked the usual watermark. "Yes, sir," said the obliging shopman, "that's on account of the drought, you know, sir!"—C. J. A. in the *Daily News*.

Trade Union Matters.

THE question of wage-reduction still dominates the horizon of printing trade unionism, and, of course, the proposed reductions come in for much unfavourable comment. The objection most commonly heard is that the cost of living has ceased its downward movement and is at present on the rise once more, so that the moment is inopportune for the reduction proposals.

NEVERTHELESS, the substantial modifications made in the employers' demands after the negotiations with the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation—the total suggested decrease of men's wages being made 10s. instead of 15s., and the date of the first 5s. cut being postponed a week—would seem to offer reasonable hope of a peaceful settlement. Such a settlement may shortly become an actuality so far as most of the unions of the men's federation are concerned, the executives' recommendation having been made in that direction. The ballot on the subject is, however, still in progress, and the outcome uncertain.

THE London Society of Compositors held a special delegate meeting last week, and the outcome of the proceedings was that the meeting carried the committee's recommendation that the employers' proposals for reduced wages be resisted. A further special delegate meeting was arranged for yesterday (Wednesday) evening, to follow the resumed conference with the employers. It was thought that ballot papers on the employers' proposals would probably be issued to-day (Thursday), these being returnable next Monday.

It is no secret that in connection with the present wages dispute the L.S.C. is making a special levy of its members to the extent of 7s. 6d. per week to combat the proposed reductions.

THE L.S.C. maintains that their rates have not increased in the same proportion as those of the other departments of the industry; during the time wages were increasing they stood by the federated societies in the flat-rate increase, although the other unions were actually getting a higher percentage increase.

It is reported that in more than one printing office notices of wage-reduction have already been posted.

At a meeting of the Imperial Conference, a resolution was passed recommending that a conference of representatives of the patent offices of His Majesty's Dominions should be held in London at an early date to consider the practicability of instituting a system of granting patents which should be valid throughout the British Empire.

Printing Industry and Slack Time.

A matter of much interest to the printing trade arose in the House of Commons on Monday, when Mr. Bowerman (Deptford) asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury if he would consider the desirability of advising the various Government Departments to put in hand any printing matter that might have been held in suspense, thereby assisting the printing industry to tide over what was usually the slackest period of the year. Mr. Hilton Young replied as follows:—The only Government printing orders which are being held over relate to Departmental services which are being discontinued or substantially reduced, in view of the imperative need for economy in public expenditure. I cannot see my way to modify the instructions already issued to Departments for reducing their demands for printing services to a minimum. But the printing of matter which is essential is not subject to suspension at this or any other period of the year, and its execution will proceed accordingly.

New British Patents.

Applications.

- Bugler, A.V., Linotype and Machinery Ltd., and Stern, C. L. 19,316.
- Crossley J. Toy paper boxes. 19,593.
- Hanson, C. J. W. Loose-leaf note books, etc. 19,859.
- Krassilnikoff, N. S. Loose-leaf binder, etc. 19,558.
- Mason, A. Envelopes for gramophone records. 19,500.

Specifications Published.

1917.

- Mascord, G. W. Printing machines. 166,166, 166,167, 166,168.
- Mascord, G. W. Rotary printing presses. 166,169.

1918.

- Mascord, G. W. Printing machines. 166,183.
- Mascord, G. W. Rotary printing machines. 166,188.

1920.

- Drury, G. L. Loose-leaf binders or equivalent devices for filing papers and documents. 166,325.
- Lang, E. L., and Lang, G. H. Marking or printing machines. 166,363.
- MacGregor, R. M. Letter cards. 166,383.
- Milligan, R., and Lumex, Ltd. Envelopes. 166,420.
- Miller, H. C. Loose-leaf binders. 148,865.
- Lanston Monotype Corporation, Ltd. (Lanston Monotype Machine Co.). Typesetting and composing machines. 166,466.

"Owen Jones" Competition Results.

The results are announced of the prize competition for students of schools of art arranged by the Royal Society of Arts in accordance with the terms of the Owen Jones Trust.

Notices were issued in October last stating that six prizes would be offered under the usual conditions, each prize consisting of the Society's Bronze Medal, and a copy of a book or books on applied art, of a value not exceeding £2, to be selected by the successful competitors. In addition to these, a special prize of £20 was offered for the best design (irrespective of class) submitted.

One of the prizes was gained with a design for a poster, the winner being H. S. Evans, of the School of Art and Design, Nottingham, while the same student shared with an exhibitor in the textile section the special prize of £20.

Commended students in the book-production section were: W. A. Dillnutt, L.C.C. Camberwell School of Arts and Crafts, Peckham-road, London, S.E. (hand tooled binding).

H. S. Evans, School of Art and Design, Nottingham (design for a title page).

Catherine E. Franks, School of Art, Technical Institute, Leyton, E. (design for a tail piece).

E. Owen Jennings, School of Art, Leeds (hand-tooled bookbinding).

E. H. Turner, L.C.C. Camberwell School of Arts and Crafts (hand-tooled binding).

H. T. Vallance, School of Art and Design, Nottingham (design for a poster).

Ruth M. Wood, School of Art, Exeter (illuminated Service of the Holy Eucharist).

Welsh University Printing?

The Court of Governors of the University of Wales, at a recent meeting, considered a recommendation that a University Press Board be formed, with a view to the establishment of a University Press. Mr. Cyrus T. Clissitt, of Newport, warned the Court that it was treading on very dangerous ground. Speaking with 37 years' experience of newspaper work, he said that the difficulties the Board would be faced with from a financial point of view were such that the public bodies represented on the Court would require an assurance that the Board would consist mainly of men who had a full and complete knowledge of the commercial side of the venture. Eventually the matter was referred to the Council for further consideration, and for a report to be tendered.

THE late Mr. Alexander Francis Lamb, of Leyton, printer and publisher, left £8,149.

Paper Bag Wages.

At a meeting of the Paper Bag Trade Board (Great Britain) held recently it was agreed to issue a notice of proposal to reduce the minimum rates at present in operation in the trade, the principal reductions being as follows:—

General Minimum Time Rates.

(A) Female Workers: Female workers of 18 years of age and over, from 9½d. to 8½d. per hour.

(B) Male workers: (i.) Machine tacklers of 23 years of age and over who have had not less than 3 years' experience as machine tacklers, from 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 6½d.; (ii.) paper bag cutters of 23 years of age and over who have had not less than 3 years' experience as machine cutters, from 1s. 6½d. to 1s. 5d.; (iii.) hydraulic pressers, slitters, stock-keepers, packers and despatchers after 3 years' service after the age of 21 in the same occupation, from 1s. 5½d. to 1s. 4½d.; (iv.) male workers of 21 years of age and over other than those specified in (i.), (ii.) and (iii.) above, from 1s. 4½d. to 1s. 3½d.

As regards machine tacklers, paper bag cutters, hydraulic pressers, etc., of lesser age and/or experience, and as regards male and female learners for whom the Trade Board have fixed minimum rates of wages, the Trade Board propose to reduce such minimum rates in proportion to the proposed reductions respectively set out above.

Piece Work Basis Time Rates.

All female workers, from 9½d. to 8½d.

Overtime Rates.

Overtime rates to be calculated on the proposed general minimum time rates or piece work basis time rates as the case may be.

Statutory notices setting out the rates in full will be sent in due course to all employers in the trade whose names and addresses are known to the Trade Board and a period of two months will be allowed from the date of the issue of the notice of proposal during which objections may be lodged.

A Useful Printing Catalogue.

Mr. W. T. Berry, the acting librarian of the St. Bride Foundation Institute, has compiled a useful "select list of books on practical printing, modern English and American text books in the Technical Library" of the institution. Printed by the students of the St. Bride Foundation Printing School in good, clear style, it is provided for the convenience of those using the library. It includes all the new volumes published by the Typothetae Library of America, and is altogether very representative of up to date books on printing. The value of the list is increased by the indication in each case of the contents of the volume.

Mr. Harry Becker.

A Live Anti-Waste Candidate for North-west Camberwell.

Mr. Harry Becker, who has been asked to stand as the Anti-Waste Candidate in opposition to Dr. Macnamara in North-west Camberwell at the next general election, will put up a very good fight. His many friends in the paper trade are taking a very earnest interest in his candidature, and his victory will be exceedingly popular. This is not Mr. Becker's first essay as a Parliamentary candidate, because he made a gallant fight in



Photo, W. S. Stuart, Richmond.

MR. HARRY BECKER.

Anti-Waste Candidate for North-West Camberwell.

Bermondsey at the last election under the banner of the discharged soldiers.

Mr. Harry Becker is a well-known figure in the paper trade, and although only 29 years of age he has had a wide business experience, not only in this country but abroad. He was educated at Uppingham and has travelled extensively. Following a tour in France and Germany he started in business in this country, but his energy and enthusiasm called for wider fields to conquer, and he went over to America, where he acted as salesman for the Parsons Trading Co. Early in 1915, however, he returned to this country with his wife and

daughter, six weeks old, and joined the army for war service. He served in France for three years as a private.

As most of his friends know, Mr. Harry Becker is now managing director of the French Paperstock Co., Ltd., and it is by his energy and enthusiasm that this important business has been built up. A man of enormous energy and business initiative, he is known to be one of the most successful paper salesmen in the country, possessing all the characteristics of a born salesman—urbanity, initiative, determination, alertness and the faculty for quick decision.

The premises at 24-30, Bermondsey-wall, are well adapted for the large business which has been created. Important connections have been made both at home and abroad in paper, strawboards, and waste papers. The company, in fact, is one of the largest importers of strawboards in this country, and it performs a very useful service in providing stocks for printers and box-makers. Large stocks are held at Bermondsey, and there are admirable facilities for the reception and despatch of goods. The site, which is on the river front, is one of the most commodious on the Thames, having four wharves and extensive warehouses, while ample stocks can be kept ready at hand. Everything in the way of paper and stationery is handled, including krafs, browns, super-calendered and M.F. printings, bag papers, special French papers, and so on *ad infinitum*. Altogether the company carries large selections* of paper and strawboard. Among the lines handled by the French Paperstock Co. is the well-known Brechtstock Bond special watermarked paper. Ancillary businesses carried on include the manufacture of paper bags, the baling of waste paper by a 100 ton baling press, and lighterage work. A specially large business is done in news-print, and some big contracts have been placed with the company. A fleet of motor cars is maintained for the rapid transit of paper stocks, while the free access to the river enables goods to be either received or despatched across the seas with ease.

Mr. Harry Becker is an attractive personality, and admiration for his business capacity is shared alike by his large staff and a wide circle of acquaintances in the paper trade. Anything that he takes in hand has to "go." It is Mr. Harry Becker's intention to follow a political career, and in this direction his enthusiasm and other gifts are likely to carry him far.

THE Income Tax Payers' Society has been formed with the object of protecting the rights and privileges of income-tax payers. One of the objects of the Society is to simplify the machinery of assessment by protecting the taxpayer against the duplication and complexity of forms. Among the members of the General Council are Sir J. J. Baddeley, Sir H. Birchenough, Sir Rowland Blades, M.P.; Viscount Burnham, Sir F. Newnes, Sir A. Spurgeon, Sir A. Tuck and Sir W. A. Waterlow.

Trade Notes.

MR. JOHN WATT, secretary of the Scottish Typographical Society, who has been prevented by illness from taking part in the current wage negotiations, has died after an operation.

KNOWN to a good many people in the printing trade is Mr. W. J. Fawn who was last week given twelve months' hard labour for a fraud upon Mr. G. E. Parker, printing manager of the Temple Press, the fraud being in connection with a bogus Masonic Lodge.

THE firm of Raphael Tuck and Sons, Ltd., was among the many business houses which were signatories to the appeal concerning the present serious financial situation of the country issued on Thursday by merchants, manufacturers, and shipowners of the United Kingdom.

THE Federation of Master Printers having inquired of the Chief Inspector of Taxes as to whether the extra depreciation allowance of 50 per cent. above the normal rates would be extended for the year 1921-22, the Chief Inspector has replied that such further extension cannot be made.

THE death has occurred of Mr. Peter Begg, a director of Messrs. R. and R. Clark, Ltd., printers, Edinburgh. He had been associated with the firm for nearly 50 years. He was president of the Edinburgh Master Printers' Association and was a well-known member of the Edinburgh printing trade.

IN our issue of July 21st we published a paragraph (received from a contributor) containing a statement that Messrs. Joseph Causton and Sons, Ltd., of Clapham, had decided to reduce working hours and to adopt a five-day week. We are officially informed that the information is inaccurate and misleading, and we therefore regret its publication.

AUTHORITY OF J.I.C.—At the next meeting of the Joint Industrial Council, to be held on October 11th, Mr. F. Murrell is to move: "That it is desirable that steps be taken to secure powers to make all unanimous decisions of this J.I.C. obligatory on all engaged in the industry, provided that it can be shown that employers employing 75 per cent. of the workpeople and 75 per cent. of the operatives are represented on the J.I.C."

AT its last meeting (on the 26th ult.) the Joint Industrial Council passed the following resolution:—"That this J.I.C. regrets the refusal of the Government, under Section 5 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921, to approve special unemployment insurance schemes, and urges upon the Government the expediency of giving all encouragement to industries which are prepared to discuss schemes for industrial insurance against unemployment." It was understood that this resolution did not pledge either side to support any scheme for a special unemployment insurance.

THE late Mr. George Neves, of Rochester, editor and part proprietor of *Chatham and Rochester News*, left £29,270.

PARTNERSHIP has been dissolved between Thomas Stanley Procter and Harold Higgin Shellard, printers, 121 and 123, Bridge-street, Bradford.

THE publisher of the Indian extremist journal *Independent* has been sent to prison for a year in default of providing security to be of good behaviour.

THE Press Association is informed that an action for libel has been commenced against the proprietors, editor, and printer of *Truth*, by Mr. Horatio Bottomley, M.P.

MR. W. H. SLATER, author of "What a Compositor Should Know," contributes an article on "The Type and the Man" to the latest issue of the *Monotype Recorder*, issued by the Lanston Monotype Corporation.

A LARGE number of representative Brightonians, including many members of the staffs of newspapers and printing establishments of which he was founder, attended the funeral, last Thursday, at Patcham, near Brighton, of Mr. Henry John Infield, J.P.

OUR national humorist, *Punch*, has just celebrated his 80th birthday, and the event is signalised by the publication of the first two volumes of "Mr. Punch's History of Modern England," which cover the period 1841-1874, and which are to be followed by two further volumes. Publishers: Cassell and Co.

PROFIT-SHARING.—Messrs. George Routledge and Sons, Ltd., have just completed their first year's trading under their profit-sharing scheme for the year ending March 31st, 1921, whereby the employees receive a dividend calculated on their year's pay at the same rate as the ordinary shareholders. The dividend this year is 10 per cent., as against 8 per cent. last year, and the board is of opinion that the staff has to a large extent earned its own dividend by increased efficiency and zeal, and by economies made in working expenses.

POST CARD POSTAGE.—A Press representative has been informed at the G.P.O. that no decision has been arrived at concerning any alteration in the 1½d. rate for post cards, although the Postmaster-General is keeping constantly in mind the possibility of a revision of rates which may benefit the public; indeed, he hopes that a return to the old rates will be possible, and such return will be introduced immediately the accounts warrant it. Sir Adolph Tuck, managing director of Messrs. Raphael Tuck and Sons, is supplying the Postmaster-General daily with extracts from hundreds of letters from the largest picture post card firms all over the country, which state that the new rates mean a drop of anything from 30 per cent. to 50 per cent. in their sales. Many of them say that the trade is being entirely ruined. Sir Adolph Tuck states that there cannot be the slightest doubt that if the sales show such an enormous drop the revenue must do so also.



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THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 1921.

Current Topics.

The Wages Negotiations.

THE first week of August finds a very unsettled and rather disquieting state of affairs in respect of the negotiations on the subject of wage-reductions in the printing and allied trades. As already reported, the representatives of the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation—with the exception of the four unions which have insisted upon separate negotiations—agreed last week to recommend to their members the acceptance of the employers' revised demand, in accordance with which the first instalment of the proposed wage-reduction should come into effect next week, i.e., on the pay day in the week ending August 13th. The P. and K. T. F. is now balloting its members on the subject of this recommended agreement, but the result of this ballot will not, we understand, be known until next week. As regards the four unions which are acting independently of their federation, viz., the Typographical Associa-

tion, the London Society of Compositors, the Society of Electrotypers and Stereotypers and the Society of Lithographic Printers, no kind of agreement has yet been reached, but negotiations between these unions and the employers are being resumed as we go to press (Wednesday).

Production and Cost.

MANUFACTURERS and those who are identified with the industries of the country are greatly concerned as to the future welfare of Great Britain. It is not only that our own position gives cause for apprehension, but the rate at which other states are recovering ground lost through the war is so much greater than here that, unless something is done to improve production and lessen cost, we shall find ourselves behind in the race for commercial supremacy. In Belgium and Germany, for instance, the workpeople have settled down to work in real earnest. According to a recent visitor to those countries, the workpeople are giving not merely a normal day's work, but a day and a half. They are evidently very conscious of the need for re-establishing their trade and commerce, and are not sparing themselves, any more than they did during the war, in rehabilitating their country from the industrial standpoint. This gentleman found things very different over here. Our workpeople, he says, are making nothing like the effort of their late enemies. If this is so, then it is time there came an alteration. So grave is the situation that a meeting of business men, representative of all sections of finance, trade and industry was held at the Mansion House, London, last week, "to consider the grave economic situation which now faces the nation, with a view to impressing upon his Majesty's Government and all classes of the community the imperative need of increasing production and reducing expenditure, so that the wealth annihilated by the war may be restored." It is believed that with the exercise of economy, both personal and public, and greater industry on the part of everyone, the credit of the nation can rapidly be restored.

Germany Making Headway.

EVIDENCE is forthcoming from many directions that Germany is making great headway in her effort to restore her industrial and commercial status. Mr. Garvin, in the *Observer*, remarks cryptically, "Everyone will know soon enough that Germany is beating us again and why. She has improved her whole national organisation for economic victory. We have scrapped ours." Then we have it

on the authority of Mr. W. A. S. Hewins that "there are countries which are almost up to their pre-war trade, whereas Britain is only up to 31 per cent." He asserts that unless we have a definite trade policy, and get round the corner, we will come precious near to bankruptcy.



Real Co-operation.

BUT we are not likely to do that if only the British working people will be true to their traditions. We are, perhaps, apt to be a little too critical of ourselves; but that does no harm; quite the contrary. At the same time we may derive some consolation from the present outlook, and the remarks of Dr. Macnamara, the Minister of Labour, emphasise this point. "All over the country employers and employed in numberless industries are sitting down together in frank consultation and conference and are making agreements which avoid stoppage of work," he said, and added: "As Minister of Labour, I cannot over-state my admiration for the spirit of mutual self-respect and intercourse with which these difficulties are negotiated and brought in many industries to a successful conclusion by agreement without strike. That is the way out. What we want now is the determination not only that the revival in trade shall not be hampered by more strife, but that it shall be taken advantage of to the fullest extent." Mr. E. W. Randle, in the *Industrial League Journal*, emphasises the need for real co-operation in this paragraph: "Low cost of production for export can only be attained by labour giving more work for their wage, the manufacturer and trader being content with moderate profit, the banker providing cheap money, and the Government relieving the burden of taxation. Given these, the wheel begins to turn, our exports are in demand, our manufacturers once more grow busy, unemployment diminishes, and the Government revenues automatically grow. If labour and capital will not co-operate in a spirit of self-sacrifice both equally suffer and the inadequacy of trade means unemployment for labour and non-productivity of capital, without which the nation's expenses cannot be met." In order that the best results may be secured it follows that each party to the contract must do his utmost to fulfil it. Otherwise the scheme naturally fails. So if British industry is to hold its own each unit in the community must make the full contribution demanded by the situation.

THERE is a general slight recovery of orders in the paper trade.

Personal.

THE Speaker (Mr. J. H. Whitley) was the guest of the members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery at their annual dinner, held at the House of Commons on Saturday. The numerous company included: Lord Riddell, Sir Emsley Carr, and Mr. C. W. Bowerman.

SIR G. ROWLAND BLADES and Lady Blades attended on Thursday night the Lord Mayor's annual banquet at the Mansion House to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the bankers and merchants of the City of London.

MR. A. E. GOODWIN, secretary of the Federation of Master Printers, left London for Cromer on Saturday, the commencement of his summer holiday having been arranged for that date, but the current wage negotiations have necessitated his return to town this week. This parallels his last year's experience, when the Manchester-Liverpool dispute caused a similar interruption of a well-earned holiday.

MR. R. A. AUSTEN-LEIGH, president of the London Master Printers' Association, in addition to his editorial duties in producing a new number of the *Falcon*, which is the house magazine of Messrs. Spottiswoode, Ballantyne and Co., Ltd., has just issued a third edition of his "Illustrated Guide to the Buildings of Eton College," and a new work entitled "The Eton Register, 1751-1790." The latter is very favourably noticed in *The Times* (Literary Supplement) of last week.

MR. GEORGE HARRAWAY (general president) and Mr. T. G. Newland (general secretary of the National Union of Printing, Bookbinding, Machine Ruling and Paper Workers, are at present at Geneva, attending the international labour conference being held there in connection with the League of Nations.

AT the Press Club, Fleet-street, last Thursday, Mr. W. O'Malley, who is shortly leaving this country on medical advice to take up residence in Ireland, was the recipient of a cheque subscribed by his many friends in the newspaper world to mark the esteem in which he is held and regret at his departure.

AT Kingston Parish Church, on Monday, at the wedding of Miss Burridge to Mr. William Grimes, a printer employed at a local newspaper office, fellow-workmen of the bridegroom formed a triumphal arch from the church door to the gate. They were armed with implements of their trade, including long wooden composing sticks, mallets, shootors, stereotypers' beating brushes, lye-brushes, galleys containing confetti, and waste paper baskets. The guard of honour were in their shirtsleeves and wore white aprons, and a printer's reader was armed with a pencil 3 ft. long.

Commercial Intelligence.

CURRENT SHARE PRICES.

Amalgamated Press, 95s, Pref., 15s. 4½d.; Associated Newspapers, Ord., 7 p.c. Cum., 17s. 9d., Pref., 13s. 7½d., 13s. 10½d.; Benn Bros., 26s. 6d.; *Daily Mirror* Newspapers, 8 p.c. Cum. Pref., 18s. 6d., 18s. 1½d.; Eyre and Spottiswoode, Deb., 67½, 67; Ilford, Pref., 15s; Lamson Paragon Supply, 15s. 9d., 10 p.c. Cum. Pref., f.p., 21s. 3d., ditto 10s. pd., 10s. 10½d.; Linotype, B Deb., 50½; Edward Lloyd, Pref., 17s. 6d., 17s. 9d.; George Newnes, 12s. 6d., Pref., 11s. 3d.; Newnes-Pearson Printing Co., 8 p.c. Deb. 97½; Odhams Press, 8 p.c. Cum. Pref., 12s. 4½d.; Sunday Pictorial Newspapers, Pref., 16s. 6d.; Wall-Paper Manufacturers, Deb., 6s. 10½d., Pref., 12s. 1½d.; Waterlow and Sons, Prefd., 8½; Weldon's, 28s. 3d., 27s. 9d., Pref., 13s. 4½d., 14s. 3d.; Wiggins, Teape and Co. (1910), 14s. 6d., 7 p.c. Cum. Pref., 17s. 6d., 8 p.c. 1st Mt. Red. Debs., 102½, 103½.

DIVIDENDS AND REPORTS.

WELDON'S, LTD.—The 23rd annual ordinary general meeting of Weldon's, Ltd., was held on Friday last at the Savoy Hotel, Strand, under the presidency of Mr. A. T. Hollingsworth (the chairman of the company). The chairman, after some general comments on the world-wide depression during the period under review, went on to refer to the accounts, and mentioned that the Excess Profits Duty and corporation taxes to June 30th, 1920, account for the depletion of carry-forward by some £17,210. He remarked that during most of the year under review, paper and printing had been at their highest prices, and, while there was a slight reduction in paper during the last few months, printing still remained unaffected. Hence the company's revenue had been adversely affected in common with every publishing enterprise—their one bright spot, although not a profitable one, being a record revenue from advertisements. The proposed dividend was agreed to, making 12½ per cent. for the year.

"LIVERPOOL DAILY POST, MERCURY, AND ECHO."—Interim dividend on ordinary shares at rate of 12½ per cent. per annum for half-year ended June 30th, 1921, payable, less tax, August 12th.

RAPHAEL TUCK.—Profit of Raphael Tuck and Sons for year ended April 30th, 1921, after

providing for directors' and managers' remuneration, was £41,508. Directors recommend final dividend of 10 per cent., making 10 per cent. for year, placing to special dividend reserve £2,586, carrying forward £5,136.

MESSRS. VALENTINE AND SONS, LTD., Dundee, have a gross profit for the year of £5,713. After writing off depreciation and income tax and adding balance brought forward, the sum available is £11,173. During the first half of the year the profits were considerable, but owing to increased cost of paper, labour, etc., and also the fall in trade the profits were reduced. Stocks have been written down to market value. No further payment is to be made meantime of dividend, but it is hoped to pay a dividend before the end of the year.

BROWN, STEWART AND CO., LTD.—The accounts of Brown, Stewart and Co. for year ended April 30th, 1921, after providing £13,784 for depreciation, deducting £6,500 for interim dividends paid on ordinary and preference shares, and including £47,500 brought forward, show a credit balance of £6,261 to be carried forward.

HARTLEPOOL PAPER MILL CO., LTD.—The general meeting held on Tuesday was adjourned, as the accounts for the year ended April last are not yet completed, owing to negotiations which are taking place in connection with a proposed amalgamation in which the company is interested. The directors hope to submit details of the suggested amalgamation at an early date.

NEW COMPANIES.

PREMIER PAPER AND PRINTING CO., LTD.—Capital £500, in £1 shares; stationers, paper merchants, contractors for printing, lithographers, typefounders, stereotypers, etc., and to adopt an agreement with F. E. White. Private company. Subscribers: F. E. White and J. R. H. Inkster. Registered office: 11, Poultry, E.C.

LAUREL BANK SCHOOL CO., LTD.—Capital £3,500, in £1 shares, to adopt an agreement with Miss M. A. H. Watson, M.A., of 4, Lilybank-terrace, Hillhead, Glasgow, to acquire or establish and carry on schools and training colleges, etc. Private company. Subscribers: H. N. Watson and J. H. Gordon.

A. D. LANG, LTD.—Capital £1,100 preference and 100 ordinary shares of £1 each; general manufacturers, buying and selling

agents, printers, lithographers, manufacturers of chemicals, etc. Private company. First directors: A. W. Hill and A. A. D. Lang. Registered office: 4, Vigo-street, W.1.

SEMAPHORE, LTD. (London).—Capital £500, in £1 shares (275 "A" and 225 "B"); importers, exporters and manufacturers of and wholesale and retail dealers in electrical apparatus, fancy goods, stationery, leather goods, etc. Private company. Subscribers: J. Portaine and W. Wadden. First directors: J. Portaine, E. E. G. Boite, W. H. Edridge, H. M. Harris and J. Weller.

ROCK HILL CHINA CLAY CO., LTD.—Capital £36,000, in £1 shares; producers of, manufacturers of and dealers in china clay, china stone, tin, tin ore, building stone and bricks, etc., and to adopt an agreement with A. M. Richards, S. H. B. Richards, W. T. Richards, R. H. Richards, F. M. Richards and J. W. Williams. Private company. First directors: A. M. Richards, S. H. B. Richards, W. T. Richards, R. H. Richards, F. M. Richards and J. W. Williams. Registered office: Stenalees, St. Austell, Cornwall.

BENJAMIN BENNETT, LTD.—Capital £35,000, in £1 shares (25,000 8 per cent. cum. pref.), to take over the business of manufacturers of hats and cardboard boxes carried on by T. Weatherill, W. G. Squires and H. W. O'Cleex Lightfoot, at Dunstable and Luton, as "Benjamin Bennett." Private company. Directors: T. Weatherill, W. G. Squires and H. W. O. Lightfoot. Registered office: 61, George-street, Luton.

WIDE WORLD AGENCIES, LTD.—Capital £10,000 in £1 shares; commission, export, import and advertising agents, publishers, etc. Private company. First directors: A. Casson and H. G. P. Catchpool. Registered office: 51, Tothill-street, Westminster.

KENSINGTON FINE ART SOCIETY, LTD.—Capital £2,500 in £1 shares; to take over the business of an art dealer carried on by M. Ruet at 26, Alfred-place, Kensington, as "The Kensington Fine Art Society." Private company. First directors: M. Ruet and C. E. Plummer. Registered office: 26, Alfred-place West, South Kensington, S.W.

DOMINION PAPER CO., LTD.—Capital £3,000 in £1 shares; manufacturers of and dealers in wallpapers, paper, pulp and pulp products, paints and colours, varnishes, etc. Private company. Directors: A. H. Young, W. E. Bamber and J. G. E. Abbott. Registered office: 11, South Castle-street, Liverpool.

PERSONALITY PHOTO PRESS, LTD.—Capital £500 in 400 10 per cent. participating non-cumulative preference shares of £1 each and 2,000 ordinary shares of 1s. each; general, cinema and and press photographers, proprietors of books, newspapers, magazines and other publications, etc. Private company. First directors: F. Hopwood and Albert L. Jarché. Registered office: 22, Farnival-street, E.C.4.

MORFORD AND GOODMAN, LTD.—Capital £30,000 in £1 shares (15,000 preference); to

take over the business carried on 35-43, High-street, and 5, Thames-street, Staines, as "Morford and Goodman," and to carry on the business of drapers, manufacturers of and wholesale and retail dealers in leather goods, stationery and fancy goods, etc. Private company. First directors: G. H. Leavey, W. N. Goodman, C. R. Goodman and A. D. Jukes. Registered office: 39, High-street, Staines, Middlesex.

UNITED SERVICES MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.—Capital £6,000 in £1 shares; manufacturers, exporters and importers of and dealers in tobacco, dealers in leather goods, stationery and fancy goods, chemicals, etc. Private company. First directors: Isidore Jacobson, Sidney T. W. Taylor, Roger I. Dansey, Keith W. G. Boddy and Solomon Teff. Registered office: 28, Lower Regent-street, S.W.

SPEERE PUBLICITY SERVICE, LTD.—Capital £5,000 in £1 shares (1,000 8 per cent. participating cumulative preference); to take over the business of advertising agents and contractors, carried on by C. M. Tregurtha, T. E. Grainger and A. P. Johnson at 2, New-court, Carey-street, W.C., as the "Speere Publicity Service." Private company. First directors: C. M. Tregurtha, T. E. Grainger and A. P. Johnson. Registered office: 2, New-court, Carey-street, W.C.

COMPANY MORTGAGES AND CHARGES.

Fresh Obligations registered pursuant to Section 93 of the Companies' (Consolidation) Act, 1908, and Satisfaction registered pursuant to Section 97 of the same Act. (The registration of Satisfaction is not compulsory).

ALEXANDER SALTON, LTD. (printers, newspaper proprietors, general stationers, fancy goods dealers, etc.).—Mortgage on 26, George-street, West Blackpool, dated July 8th, 1921, to secure all moneys due or to become due from company to National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Ltd.

L. UPCOTT GILL AND SON, LTD. (printers, etc.).—Issue on July 11th, 1921, of £2,000 debentures, part of a series already registered.

LEWIS MATHIAS AND CO., LTD. (music printers, etc., London).—Issue on July 1st, 1921, of £125 debentures, part of a series already registered.

WELBECK PUBLISHING CO., LTD.—Particulars of £1,400 debentures, authorised July 1st, 1921; whole amount issued; charged on the company's property, present and future, including uncalled capital.

FLEETWAY PRESS, LTD.—Satisfaction to the extent of £2,500 on June 30th, 1921, of "B" debentures dated July 28th, 1920, securing £58,200.

LENDRUM, LTD. (manufacturers of paper and papermaking materials, London).—Deposit on July 21st, 1921, charged on 15, Quay-street, Manchester, to secure all moneys due or to become due from company to Lloyds Bank, not exceeding £6,000.

CENTRAL PAPER MILLS, Co., LTD. Wakefield).—Debenture dated July 5th, 1921, to secure £4,000, charged on company's property, present and future, including uncalled capital (if any). Holders: S. H. Stocks, 15, Bradford-road, Cleckheaton; and H. J. Wells, 2, Princes-street, E.C.

F. J. PARSONS, LTD. (newspaper owners, etc.).—Particulars of £25,000 debentures, authorised February 2nd, and covered by trust deed, dated June 29th, 1921; present issue, £18,050; charged on various freehold and leasehold properties in Hastings, Bexhill, Sandgate, Hythe and Folkestone and the company's undertaking and other assets, including uncalled capital. Trustees: A. Blackman, F. W. Coles, Margaret Oliver, J. Parsons and E. A. Parsons.

W. C. B. WADE, LTD. (publishers, stationers, etc., London).—Debenture dated July 9th, 1921, to secure £2,000, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Holder: W. Livesey, 13, Hope-street, Liverpool.

STANDARD CATALOGUE Co., LTD.—Satisfaction to the extent of £10,750 on June 30th, 1921, of B.S.E. debentures, dated September 10th and November 15th, 1920, securing £19,500 notified; also issue on July 11th, 1921, of £250 E.S.C. and £10,000 B.S.E. debentures, parts of a series already registered.

BENNING AND GREEN, LTD. (printers, etc., Marlow).—Debenture, dated July, 19th, 1921, to secure £475, charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital. Holder: Mrs. G. A. Cripps, St. Ives, Maidenhead, Berks.

G. E. HANCOCK, LTD. (Newspaper Proprietors, Clevedon, Somerset).—Particulars of £300 debentures authorised May 31st, 1921; whole amount issued; charged on the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital.

EASTBOURNE AND DISTRICT BILLPOSTING AND ADVERTISING Co., LTD.—Satisfaction in full on July 13th, 1921, of mortgage dated November 13th, 1918, securing £75.

A. MEGSON AND Co. (LEEDS), LTD. (Printers, etc.).—Mortgage dated July 8th, 1921, to secure £4,500 charged on certain land and premises in Potternewton, Leeds. Holders: Leeds Permanent Benefit Building Society.

HUGH STEVENSON AND SONS, LTD. (Manufacturers of plain and fancy boxes, cases, tubes, bags, etc.).—Particulars of £175,000 debentures authorised June 17th, 1921; whole amount issued; charged on various properties in Manchester, Perth, Glasgow, Birmingham, Leith and London and the company's undertaking and property, present and future, including uncalled capital.

JACKSON, HARTLEY, AND JACKSON, LTD. (Paper Manufacturers, London).—Particulars of £5,000 debentures authorised July 8th, 1921; present issue £3,000; charged on company's property, present and future, including uncalled capital.

BANKRUPTCIES, etc.

Re HORACE VICKARS REES, formerly printer and publisher, 14, Fetter-lane, E.C., and elsewhere.—The public examination of this debtor was held on July 28th before Mr. Registrar Mellor at the London Bankruptcy Court, the accounts showing liabilities £4,990 and assets £100. Replying to Mr. W. Boyle, official receiver, the debtor stated that two previous failures were recorded against him; in October, 1880, he paid a composition of 5s. in the £ on liabilities of £85; in January, 1890, he was bankrupt with liabilities £686 and no assets, but was granted a discharge which became effective on September 6th, 1919. Since 1908 he had carried on business successively as a publisher, a music seller, a nursery gardener, a music publisher and as a printer and publisher. In January, 1920, he formed "Hardwick's Gothic Press, Ltd.," with a nominal capital of £6,000, to take over the business of a printer and publisher then being carried on at 14, Fetter-lane, E.C., he (the debtor) received £1,000 in shares and acted as managing director at a remuneration of £250 per annum until February last, when a receiver was appointed for the debenture holder. Witness attributed his failure and insolvency to losses in connection with, and to his liability under guarantees given on behalf of various companies in which he had been interested. The examination was concluded.

Re J. W. MILWARD (trading as J. W. Milward and Co.), printing contractor, 368, Strand, W.C.—This case came before Mr. Registrar Francke at the London Bankruptcy Court on July 29th upon the debtor's application for approval to a scheme for the payment of a composition of 5s. in the £. The accounts show liabilities £1,544 against assets £89, and the official receiver reported that as a sum of £270 would be required to carry through the scheme, the terms were reasonable and calculated to benefit the creditors. There still remained a balance of about £60 to be deposited at the Court. In reply to the registrar the debtor said he desired a further adjournment of one month, by which time he expected to receive a commission on a substantial printing contract. The application was postponed till October 14th.

INDIA.—The evolution of India from an agricultural to an industrial country is evidenced by the issue of a new technical journal, under the title of *Industrial India*. The first number published by the Tava Publicity Corporation, Ltd., Bombay and London, is produced on modern lines, art paper being used, with coloured cover. Editorially, *Industrial India* has been planned to deal each month with the different phases of industry, under the following six main headings: industries, manufactures, power and power transmission, organisation, transport and science.

EFFORTS are to be made to secure the passing of the Safeguarding of Industries Bill before Parliament is prorogued in August.

Printing Notes from Australia.

A Surprise Printing Bill—Printing Trade Wages—44-Hour Week Application—Trade Union Amalgamation—Paper.

(From Our Sydney Correspondent.)

The Commonwealth Government is confronted with an unexpected bill for £100,000 for material ordered from England in 1914. When the Government Printing Office placed the order, it could not be executed on account of war-time conditions. Now the order has been filled and the prices show an increase on the 1914 quotations.

The point of interest is that the present Government did not know of the existence of the order till the Printing Office Bill came up for consideration, when they were surprised to find themselves faced with this large commitment and for dealing with which special measures will have to be taken.

Mr. Justice Macnaughton, in the Arbitration Court at Brisbane, has given his award as to when the new increases in wages should take effect. The union claimed that as the application was filed last year they should date from the delivery of the judgment on May 12th. His Honour decided, however, that the increases should date from March 1st, and in order to mitigate any hardship that might be caused by the retrospective order the increases could be paid in instalments, except where an employee was discharged.

An exhibition of the Government printer's work has been held in Sydney, which sets out to demonstrate the progress made in Australia in the art of printing and colour reproduction. Professor Jeffrey, of Harvard University, expressed his admiration of many of the examples shown, and said in regard to the lifelike reproduction of timbers on to the plate nothing like it had been produced in the United States.

The hearing of the libel action brought by Thomas Joseph Ryan, M.P., against the proprietors of the *Mercury* newspaper, Hobart, in the High Court of Australia, has again been adjourned for further hearing. The hearing of the case is attracting large crowds of listeners to the building.

The hearing was continued on the application for a 44-hour week now being made by the printers of Sydney. Speaking against the proposal Mr. S. Musgrave, president of the County Press Association, said that there were 230 country newspapers being issued out of 189 offices, while at the time of the inception of the Association there were 370 newspapers and 230 offices.

For the employees Mr. Edward Quealey said that by bringing the country equipment up-to-date any loss resulting from the proposed shorter hours would be overtaken.

The printers of Perth are also making an application for an increase in wages from 1s. 10½d. to 2s. 6d. per hour and a decrease in the working week from 48 to 44 hours in five days, Saturday morning work to be counted as time and a-half.

An award of £150 with costs has been made by Judge Scholed, Sydney, on behalf of a compositor who stated that he had been incapacitated from following his employment due to the disease of lead poisoning contracted in the course of his employment at Simmon's, Ltd., printing works.

It is expected that the bookbinders, female bookbinders, carton and cardboard box makers and the Typographical Society will definitely amalgamate. The new organisation in Victoria will embrace 4,000 members. The committee is now at work drawing up rules to govern the organisation, which will be a branch of the Printing Industry Employees Union of Australia.

THE Conference of the Australian Provincial Press Association has been seriously considering the question of customs duties on imported paper, and a deputation waited on the Minister for Trade and Customs (Mr. Massy Greene) to urge that the maximum duty on paper should be 30s. per ton.

MR. GREENE, in replying, said that the paper duty was purely a revenue duty, and that it did not pretend to be anything else. He would, however, confer with the Treasurer on the subject, as he recognised that a duty which might not affect the metropolitan papers could affect the provincial Press. He was doubtful whether the Government would agree to give up revenue by fixing a maximum duty.

PAPER mills generally have started up again now that fuel is available once more. Full time, however, has not yet been resumed in many cases, a paucity of orders still being experienced.

THE Port of London has recently admitted printing paper from Belgium and Austria, 245 reels of wrapping paper from Germany, 46 reels of packing and wrapping paper from Czecho Slovakia, and varying quantities of paper from Finland.

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The Bookbinder.

Bindery Costing.

The question of the introduction of adequate costing methods into the bindery remains a topic of the utmost urgency. A welcome move in the right direction was made at last week's meeting of the Joint Industrial Council when the subject was given consideration. The difficulty of applying the costing system to binderies in the Manchester area was brought before the meeting, Mr. A. E. Holmes presenting a report on the matter, and Messrs. Goodwin, Bethell and Harraway joining in the discussion. The outcome was a decision to appoint a sub-committee of six a side to investigate and report on the Federation Costing System, with special reference to its effect upon the employees in the industry. This should mean that the subject now receives a thorough and reasoned consideration which must result in some nearer approach to scientific treatment of bindery costs. The urgency of this matter is stressed, we notice, in the current *Circular* of the Federation of Master Printers, in which a paragraph on "Binders' Dockets" contains the following: "Considerable correspondence has taken place on the question, and the *British and Colonial Printer and Stationer* deserves the thanks of every bookbinder (both employer and employee) for the steps it is taking to bring the question to the front. Accurate cost-finding is impossible under the system which permits time to be entered on the cost sheet in the factory, or even where a foreman allows his staff to fill in the whole of their time at the end of the day. No time books should be allowed in the departments, and every record of time should balance with the time for which wages are paid, and should pass into the costing department at the end of every day."

Prices of Bookbinding Materials.

Prices of bookbinders' materials have not altered materially from those quoted in our last bookbinding issue, although in many instances there are evident signs of a further drop in prices. We hear of a firm in the north of Scotland that is making a big bid to reduce the cost of raw pigskin material. The cost of tapes and cotton goods are also spoken of as likely soon to be on the fall. Strawboards are being quoted at anything from £8 10s. per ton basis; bookbinders' cloth, which is falling in price, is now 1s. to 1s. 4d. per yard; wires—according to gauge—are 58s. 6d. to 89s. 6d., which records a drop in price from those ruling a month or two back.

Boards and Paper.

THE market price of Dutch strawboards seems to have levelled itself at £8 10s. per ton (basis price), and very little is being seen of the £6 or £7 offers which were in evidence some weeks ago. As yet, there is no demand, however, and very little likelihood of any appreciable increase in the near future. Wood pulp boards are quoted £25 to £30 per ton, and supplies are not by any means over-abundant. Foreign unglazed bank is on offer at 5½d. per lb., for ton lots, but the standard qualities are still between 6d. and 7d. per lb. German S.C. mechanical is available at 3½d. per lb., and glazed mechanical at 3d. to 3½d., according to substance. Some exceptional offers of Belgian printings are also announced, while high grade manillas are quoted £48 to £60 per ton.

Adhesive Bookbinding Composition.

Mr. E. R. Royston has patented a method by which the edges of a number of sheets or leaves are bound together by an adhesive composition which, is flexible when dry and allows the book or writing pad so formed to be laid open flat at any point, or to be bent or flexed without injury. In applying the binding composition, some parts of the edges are left free, so that adjacent sheets may be stretched apart slightly to permit the insertion of a loose sheet, such as a piece of carbon paper; or so that one or more of the sheets may be torn out without disturbing the remaining sheets. The adhesive consists of 35 parts smoked plantation or fine Para raw rubber, mixed by rolling with the same amount of unsmoked first latex, adding 10 parts silica oxides or magnesium carbonate or fossil flour, 13 parts calcium chloride, 6 parts calcium hydroxide, and 1 part colouring matter. This mixture is stirred into a solvent consisting of 70 parts carbon tetrachloride and 30 parts benzol to which a suitable deodorant is added. East India gum may also be added to minimise the tendency of the composition to become doughy and to assist quick drying.

It would be hard for any customer or prospective customer of Messrs. Wm. Strain and Sons, Ltd., Belfast, to read month by month the witty and good-humoured pages of that firm's little house-organ the "Monthly Statement" without getting the impression that the Strain printing house was one with which it would be rather pleasant to do business. That's one function of a good house organ.

Marbled Paper and its Uses.

The Introduction into England.

The Committee on Bibliography of the Technical Association of the American Pulp and Paper Industry has issued a bibliography of marbled paper compiled by Mr. Dard Hunter, who contributes an historical introduction.

The art of marbling consists in the production of patterns and designs on paper by means of colours so prepared as to float upon a preparation of mucilaginous liquid, usually made from boiling Irish moss. These colours are transferred to the paper by applying the sheet to the colour floating on the top of the liquid. The colours, which are dropped on the liquid, are kept from running together by the use of ox-gall. By dragging the colours with a comb, made with wire teeth set at even or uneven intervals, an endless variety of patterns may be made. The forms and effects appearing in the colours will be transposed to the sheet of paper when it comes in contact with the floating pigment. The sheets are dried and burnished with a stone burnisher which gives a very high degree of finish. Most of the modern kinds are left dull and have a more artistic appearance than the highly finished papers.

Marbled papers are used for fly-leaves or end-papers in books and for the covering of fancy boxes and in any work where surface coloured paper can be used. The finest marbled papers are stained or coloured by hand, but machines have been invented that imitate this work in an indifferent way.

It is thought that marbled paper was invented at the end of the sixteenth century by the Turks, but was first used for the forwarding of books by the French binders. One of the earliest examples known is in an Album Amicorum, bound in 1600 for Jean de Beauchamps which contains 24 leaves of marbled paper of poor quality. A much better specimen may be seen in a book bound by Le Gascon about 1616. This volume is now in the British Museum and the marbled paper is of the wavy or combed pattern. In the National Gallery in London there is a collection of 34 different varieties of marbled paper from the same year, most of which are of the conservative combed pattern without much display of originality. All of these early examples are thought to be of Turkish manufacture.

Macé Ruelle, a Parisian stationer (1606-1638), is usually given the credit of the discovery of the manufacture in France. Marbled paper was first known in England about the year 1625, but was not used for the forwarding of books until the latter half of the century. At that time the best marbled paper was made in Holland and some years later the Dutch paper in the size of foolscap was exported to England wrapped around small parcels of toys and passed free of duty. When the paper was taken from the toys it was carefully

pressed and sold to the English bookbinders for use in their finest bindings. In some of the old English bindings it was quite apparent that the end-papers had been crushed and wrinkled before being used for the purpose of binding.

At the beginning of the eighteenth century a Frenchman named Le Breton was considered to be one of the best makers of marbled paper in France and he became widely known for his skill in producing beautiful specimens.

Coloured printed paper was also used, especially in Southern Germany, for the forwarding of books. It was made in Augsburg with the worn blocks that were discarded by the calico printers. Paper with patterns in gold and colours, which began to be used for the binding of books in the seventeenth century in South Germany and North Italy, was in the eighteenth century introduced into Holland and thence to England. There has never been much marbling done in America, most of the paper of this kind used in that country has always been imported, especially from Germany.

The collecting of marbled papers is a very interesting pursuit and it is astonishing the vast assortment of colours and forms that present themselves. Mr. Dard Hunter started a collection a dozen years ago and the assortment has reached a total of 1,600 specimens, dating from the prosaic examples of the 17th century to the unique, futurist forms of the present day. It is quite possible, in marbling, to arrange the colours on the surface of the liquid so that the forms of fish, birds and the like are brought forth and really very artistic and pleasing effects may be made. For the student who wishes to delve into the mysteries of marbling the books of Woolnough and Halfer will be found the most comprehensive works to be found in the English language.

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Miscellaneous.

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Standardisation of Paper.

A Suggested Scheme from India.

The subject of the standardisation of paper is very much to the fore just now, not only in the United Kingdom, but in the English-speaking countries overseas. Curiously enough, just as the controversy was renewed in our columns, a proposed scheme comes to hand from India, and is outlined in the following letter:—

To the Editor of the "British and Colonial Printer and Stationer."

SIR,—A few years ago I read an article in an American trade journal on the standardisation of paper sizes, which revived my interest in a subject that for about a quarter of a century (of paper dealing) had claimed a certain amount of my attention, but to which I had never been able to devote much time, and upon which I had never progressed so far as to express an opinion in any really public way. In 1919, however, in London, I discussed the matter with various people intimately associated with paper and printer's ink, including a well-known maker of printing machines at Otley. During the last two years I have been able at intervals to give more attention to the subject, and, as I understand that some movement in the direction of general standardisation may at any moment be launched, I am impelled to put forward my conclusions.

Along with the American journal aforesaid, I must render tribute to a New Zealander, whose name I have forgotten, for the root idea—the hypotenuse oblong. How much older the idea may be, I cannot say, and, for the purpose of the allied trades, it does not matter.

The hypotenuse oblong is an oblong the shorter sides of which are equal to the side of a given square, while the longer sides are equal to the hypotenuse or diagonal of that square. Its peculiar gift is that it repeats itself, that is to say, that doubled or halved it retains the same proportions. Add to this that these proportions are the most pleasing that a plain oblong, without any embellishments, can possibly assume. Some people call it the Golden Oblong, and it is a curious thing that in other things than sheets of paper—in pictures, in the facade of a building, in the dimensions of a living room or public hall—this Golden Oblong always pleases.

Leaving other things alone, however, we find in the allied crafts concerned with paper and books that this oblong continually crops up wherever the artistic is allowed to dominate the issue. It is the proportion of all the most pleasing magazines and periodicals of recent origin. (Any one can test this readily for himself—the proportion is roughly 70 by 99.)

I have said enough of the æsthetic side; the really surprising thing is the immense practical utility of the idea. Imagine a

heart-breaks that would have been saved to all concerned with paper and print if, instead of the chaos that exists at present, we had had from the beginning a short series of five or six sizes in paper which regularly increased in such a way that each larger size overlapped all round the next smaller size and the smallest double size was only the next remove from the largest broadside.

I have spent considerable time lately in an endeavour to reconcile this new idea to existing usage, and I propose now to put before you a scheme, the simplicity of which was not arrived at in a day. I need not detail the processes by which I arrived at the measurements here given, but I will admit that I have been surprised, in the later stages of the investigation, to find how little needs to be done to make standard sizes at least possible. The final surprise, when I had plotted out my super-crown, super-post, super-demy, super-medium and super-royal, was to find that, in either one or other of two countries of Europe—the United Kingdom and France—every one of these sizes was approximately in existence.

The first stage of my proposal is (as a concession to use and wont) that we standardise and name seven sizes: Foolscap, note, crown, post, demy, medium and royal—using the not unpleasant proportions of crown as our guide. This gives us:—

OLD SIZES.		STANDARD.	
Foolscap	... 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 17	Foolscap	... 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 18
Punched post or note	... 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 18 $\frac{1}{2}$	Note	... 14 x 19
Crown	... 15 x 20	Crown	... 15 x 20
Large post	... 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 21	Post	... 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 22
Demy	... 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 22 $\frac{1}{2}$	Demy	... 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 23
Medium	... 18 x 23	Medium	... 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 24
Royal	... 20 x 25	Royal	... 20 x 25

(I have always disliked foolscap and demy in 8vo. or 4to.; indeed, who ever asks for them, except through use and wont? These two must suffer change.)

The second stage is to add (in a qualified sense) five super sizes. These I have already named; they are the hypotenuse oblong sizes and give a regular progression in sizes from the smallest 32mo. to the largest quad (or less or more). Thus:—

	Inches.	C.M.
Super-crown	... 15 x 21 $\frac{1}{2}$	39 x 55
" post	... 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 23 $\frac{1}{2}$	42 x 61
" demy	... 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 25	45 x 64
" medium	... 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 26 $\frac{1}{2}$	48 x 68
" royal	... 20 x 28	51 x 72

I have said that these sizes (approximately) exist. Thus:—

A. Imperial (half sheet)	(U.K.)	15 x 22 inches.
B. Columbian	(France)	43 x 62 C. M.
C. Grand	(France)	45 x 62 C. M.
D. Petite Soliel	(France)	50 x 68 C. M.
E. Super-royal	(U.K.)	20 x 20 inches

All that it amounts to, then, is that we adopt three French sizes, and re-name them, that we re-name Imperial, "double super crown," keep our super royal, and insist on standard measurements. It will then become possible for the progressive spirit, printer or stationer or account-book maker, to drive the displeasing into the dust-bin of oblivion.

If the paper trade will give us a scheme like

this, for both writing and printing papers, with 500 sheet reams, abolish the quire and standardise weights on the grammes per sq. metre basis, I do not think that anyone worth more than a quire of foolscap will raise any outcry.

Yours, etc.,

D. L. MUNRO.

Calcutta, India, June 18th, 1921.

P.S. (June 27th).—Since writing the foregoing I have read your remarks and the proposals of Mr. Alfred Watkins as set out in the *British and Colonial Printer*, May 5th, 1921. Mr. Watkins will be interested if he will find access to *The Printing Art* (American) files of a few years back (I regret I cannot give the date), where he and all interested will find a very full exposition of the subject. The most interesting thing in the article is a composite diagram showing that a large number of high-class magazines, refusing, under the impulse of the artistic sense, to be content with what has so long contented the papermaker and book-producer, break away from precedent, and in their pursuit of the artistically pleasing find the geometrically perfect—the Golden Oblong.

I wonder if Mr. Watkins will accept my Super Post, Demy and Medium with the existing Imperial and Super Royal in place of his three new sizes. Believe me, I tried *three* sizes, and I tried *four* sizes (like the American writer referred to) and it was not until I arrived at *five* sizes correlated to *five* standardised existing *British* sizes that I saw daylight. I feel perfectly sure that it is this linking up with the old sizes, more than anything else, that will recommend the new series to papermakers, the printer and the stationer, and account-book maker. It is to be noted that the standard and the super sizes are identical in one dimension.

I agree most heartily with your remark on the "too big dose." Progress by steps has been one of my leading principles in working on this problem. I propose therefore, for the consideration of the master papermakers and the master printers, the following as the first step, or steps:—1. Standardisation of sizes—Foolscap, Note, Crown, Post, Demy, Medium and Royal (to be so named) in the measurements given in my letter, adding to these, for the present, Old Foolscap (13½ by 17). 2. Adding three (French) sizes to give the Hypothenuse series of evenly graded sizes. This with Imperial and Super Royal would give—Super Crown, Super Post, Super Demy, Super Medium, Super Royal (to be so named) in the measurements given in my letter. 3. The 500 sheet reams, for all papers: printing, writing, and account book.

I have no hesitation in saying that, if some arbitrary power were to impose such a system upon them, 99 per cent. of all the papermakers and book producers involved would heave a great sigh of relief and ask why it wasn't done ages ago.

And this percentage would include *all* the progressives.

D. L. M.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF Wholesale Stationers and Paper MERCHANTS.

National Council Meeting.

At a meeting of the National Council of the National Association of Wholesale Stationers and Paper Merchants held at the Council Chamber, 11, King's Bench-walk, Temple, E.C.4, on Thursday, July 14th, various items of great interest to the trade in general were under discussion.

The President (Mr. J. W. Cooke) gave the outlines of a scheme under which members of the Association would be entitled to a special rebate on all insurances. This scheme was discussed at great length and left in the hands of the general secretary and a small sub-committee for further information and report.

The question of standardisation also came under consideration, and it was agreed by the members of the Council that wholesale stationers and paper merchants as a body would be only too willing to adopt any scheme which was demanded by the consuming trades as a whole.

Mr. F. M. Carson (vice president) detailed at length the efforts which a sub-committee appointed recently had made, by interviews and correspondence with various shipping companies, to remove the present anomaly by which the freight of foreign paper carried at ton rate was transported at so much lower price than English shipping at measurement rate, and brought to the notice of the Council a letter to the general secretary on the matter which conveyed the decision of the Rates Committee of the Australian and New Zealand Lines to reduce materially the rate of freight on *all* paper in bales or reels.

It was also announced that the final of the National Cup Golf Competition between Mr. Dykes Spicer (Southern District) and Mr. A. Parkinson (Northern District) would be played on a neutral course near London early in September.

Paper Index Numbers.

Compared with an index number of 100 as the average for 1919, news-print paper production in the United States rose to 114 in June, 1920, and fell from 108 to 90 between January and February this year, rising to 94 in March and 101 in April. Shipments were as low as 84 in February. Stocks rose in inverse ratio, being 135 in January last and 175 in March.

Production of all other paper, which rose to 132 in July last year, fell to 74 in January, and in the three succeeding months was 76, 83 and 76. Shipments were lowest in June—67. Stocks rose from 101 in January to 120 in April.

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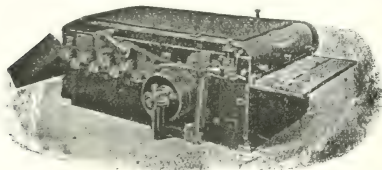
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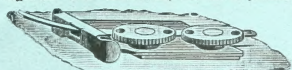
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